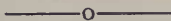


floating logs. Among the leaves near the water *Bradycellus linearis* was common. It was often found among leaves on ground that had been covered with water for several days or weeks at a time. *Loxandrus*, of which there were several species, did not seem to object to water either. They were everywhere in the wet woods.

Coptodera ærata Dej. was taken once under bark, and the bright little *Hister æniomicans* Horn and *venustus* Lec. were dug from crevices in oak bark. *Dicerca lurida* Fab. might have been gathered by the pint. Sometimes a whole handful was taken (but not kept) from under the loose bark of a large tree.

Burnt over districts in the woods yielded many *Platynus errans* and *Cryptobium* sp. *Pinophilus (opacus?)* was the most common of all the Staphylinidæ.

To the kindness of Mr. Henry Ulke I am indebted for the names of the above species.



RAVAGES OF THE LOCUST BORER.

By PHILIP LAURENT, Phila.

On September 17th of the present year my neighbor, Mr. Horace Rodd, called my attention to a grove of young locust trees (*Robinia pseudacacia*) growing a short distance from his home at Mt. Airy, Pa. The trees varied from one to six inches in diameter, and not one of them but what showed the distinctive work of the locust-borer (*Cyllene robinia*). Many of the trees were completely honey-combed by the larva of this destructive beetle. With the aid of Mr. Rodd I secured sections of some of the trees, some of which are represented on the plate accompanying the present number of the NEWS. Figures 1, 2 and 3 (read figures beginning from upper left hand corner) were cut from a tree five inches in diameter that had but lately succumbed to the ravages of the borer. The other figures represent sections cut from limbs and branches; no part of the tree is exempt from their attacks, excepting the smaller twigs and leaves. In a field close by I found the beetle feeding on the golden-rod (*Solidago*), there were hundreds of them; in some cases I counted as many as ten specimens on one stalk of golden-rod. For many years the locust borer and hickory-borer were thought to

be one and the same insect, but the investigations of Mr. Benj. D. Walsh proved this to be a mistake. As preventive measures it has been suggested to soap the trees about the end of August or early in September, just previous to the emerging of the beetles, which occurs during September, also the employing of children to gather the beetles by hand; if this latter means is used the children should be instructed to gather the beetles from the trees and not from the golden-rod, as stated in an article which I read a short time ago, otherwise it would prove to be a case of locking the stable door after the horse is stolen.

If any of the readers of the News desire more information concerning the insect here treated of I can refer them to the following papers: "Harris' Insects Injurious to Vegetation," Flint edition, 1880, pp. 103-4. "The Practical Entomologist," January, 1866, vol. i, pp. 28-29,—An article entitled Borers, by Benj. D. Walsh. "Trans. of Amer. Ent. Soc." May, 1880, vol. viii, p. 136,—Notes on some Genera of Cerambycidae, with descriptions of new species, by Dr. George H. Horn.

The following articles also contain more or less information on the subject, though in some cases it is but a repetition of what has been published in the three articles first mentioned: "Insects Injurious to Forest and Shade Trees," by A. S. Packard, Jr., 1881, p. 95. "Canadian Entomologist," December, 1877, vol. ix, pp. 223-4,—A few Common Wood-boring Beetles, by Rev. C. J. S. Bethune. "Canadian Entomologist," August, 1880, vol. xii, pp. 151-2,—"Entomology for Beginners," by R. V. Rogers, Jr. "Canadian Entomologist," September, 1882, vol. xiv, p. 200,—An article by J. Alston Moffat, "Canadian Entomologist," November, 1882, vol. xiv, p. 240,—An article by Dr. Geo. H. Horn. Annual Report of the Entomological Society of Ontario for the year 1874, pp. 13-4; also for the year 1877, pp. 24-5. Fifth Report of the U. S. Entomological Commission, Department of Agriculture, pp. 355-8. "Bulletin of Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences," April 10, 1874, vol. ii, p. 96, mention of the capture of *Cyllene robiniae* at Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana.

THE *Union Medicale* recommends a mixture of equal parts by weight of powdered ipecac, alcohol and sulphuric ether as an application for insect bites.